

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1                   1.       (Currently amended) In a networked data processing system comprising  
2 one or more host servers, a switching component, and a data storage component, a storage access  
3 method comprising:  
4                   receiving a user-originated request for data storage, the request including a service  
5 policy, the service policy comprising a server sub-policy, a network sub-policy, and a storage  
6 sub-policy which is being-associated with one or more data storage performance criteria;  
7                   identifying a server service component based on the server sub-policy;  
8                   identifying a data store from among a pool of data stores defined in the data  
9 storage component;  
10                  identifying a port on the data store by applying a rule to the one or more data  
11 storage performance criteria;  
12                  communicating with a data storage agent to establish a data path within the data  
13 storage component for data communication between the port and the data store, the data storage  
14 agent being one of a plurality of data storage agents that manage portions of the data storage  
15 component;  
16                  based on the network sub-policy, identifying a network path for data  
17 communication between a host server that is identified in the user-originated request the server  
18 service component and the port; and  
19                  communicating with a network agent to allocate the network path, the network  
20 agent being one of a plurality of network agents that manage portions of the network storage  
21 component.

1                   2.       (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the port the step of applying a  
2 rule to the one or more data storage performance criteria produces a bandwidth metric, wherein  
3 the port is characterized by the bandwidth metric.

1                   3.       (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the network path has a  
2 bandwidth metric that is greater than or equal to the bandwidth metric of the port.

1                   4.       (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising communicating with  
2 a host agent to allocate resources on the host server that is identified in the user-originated  
3 request, the host agent being one of a plurality of host agents that manage the one or more host  
4 servers.

1                   5.       (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the service policy is further  
2 associated with one or more security criteria, wherein the step of identifying a network path  
3 includes applying a second rule to the one or more security criteria to determine one or more  
4 security parameters, wherein the network path is identified based on the one or more security  
5 parameters.

1                   6.       (Currently amended) A storage service manager comprising a processing  
2 component and computer program code for execution by the processing component, the program  
3 code configured to operate the processing component to perform method steps of:

4                   receiving a user-originated request for data storage, the request including a service  
5 policy, the service policy comprising a server sub-policy, a network sub-policy, and a storage  
6 sub-policy which is being associated with one or more data storage performance criteria;  
7                   executing a rule to identify a server service component based on the server sub-  
8 policy;

9                   executing a rule to identify a suitable data store from among a pool of data stores  
10 defined in a data storage component, the rule comprising an evaluation of the one or more data  
11 storage performance criteria, including identifying a port based on the rule;

12                   communicating with a data storage agent to establish a data path within the data  
13 storage component for data communication between the port and the data store, the data storage  
14 agent being one of a plurality of data storage agents that manage portions of the data storage  
15 component;

16                   based on the network sub-policy, identifying a network path for data  
17 communication between the server service component ~~a host server that is identified in the user-~~  
18 ~~originated request~~ and the port; and  
19                   communicating with a network agent to allocate the network path, the network  
20 agent being one of a plurality of network agents that manage portions of a network storage  
21 component.

1                   7.       (Original) The storage service manager of claim 6 wherein the port is  
2 characterized by a bandwidth metric that is determined by applying the rule to the one or more  
3 data storage performance criteria.

1                   8.       (Original) The storage service manager of claim 7 wherein the network  
2 path is characterized by a bandwidth metric that is greater than or equal to the bandwidth metric  
3 of the port.

1                   9.       (Currently amended) In a networked data processing system comprising  
2 one or more host servers, a switching component, and a data storage component, a storage access  
3 method comprising:

4                   receiving a user-originated request for data storage, the request including a service  
5 policy, the service policy comprising a server sub-policy, a network sub-policy which is  
6 associated with one or more security criteria, and a storage sub-policy which is being associated  
7 with one or more data storage performance criteria and with one or more security criteria;

8                   identifying a server service component based on the server sub-policy;  
9                   identifying a data store from among a pool of data stores defined in the data  
10 storage component based on a first rule comprising an evaluation of the one or more data storage  
11 performance criteria;

12                   communicating with a data storage agent to establish a data path within the data  
13 storage component for data communication between the data store and a port on the data store,  
14 the data storage agent being one of a plurality of data storage agents that manage portions of the  
15 data storage component;

16                   identifying a network path for data communication between ~~a host server that is~~  
17 ~~identified in the user-originated request~~ the server service component and the port, based on a

~~second rule comprising~~ an evaluation of the one the one or more security criteria in the network  
sub-policy; and  
communicating with a network agent to allocate the network path, the network  
agent being one of a plurality of network agents that manage portions of the network storage  
component.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the port is identified based on a  
bandwidth metric that is determined by evaluating the first rule.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the port is identified based on a  
bandwidth metric that is determined by evaluating the first rule and the network path is  
characterized by having a bandwidth metric that is greater than or equal to the bandwidth metric  
of the port.

13. (Currently amended) In a networked data processing system comprising  
one or more host servers, a switching component, and a data storage component, a storage  
service manager comprising a processing component and computer program code for execution  
by the processing component, the program code configured to operate the processing component  
to perform method steps of:

receiving a user-originated request for data storage, the request including a service  
policy, the service policy comprising a server sub-policy, a network sub-policy which is  
associated with one or more security criteria, and a storage sub-policy which is being-associated  
with one or more data storage performance criteria-and-with one or more security criteria;

identifying a server service component based on the server sub-policy;

identifying a data store from among a pool of data stores defined in the data  
storage component based on a first rule comprising an evaluation of the one or more data storage  
performance criteria;

communicating with a data storage agent to establish a data path within the data  
storage component for data communication between the data store and a port on the data store,

the data storage agent being one of a plurality of data storage agents that manage portions of the data storage component;

identifying a network path for data communication between ~~a host server that is identified in the user-originated request~~ the server service component and the port, based on a ~~second rule comprising~~ an evaluation of the one or more security criteria in the network sub-policy; and

communicating with a network agent to allocate the network path, the network agent being one of a plurality of network agents that manage portions of the network storage component.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) The computer program of claim 14 wherein the at least one security parameter includes one of a port zoning parameter and a WWN (world-wide name) zoning parameter.

16. (Original) The computer program of claim 13 further configured to operate the processing component to perform a method step of evaluating the first rule to produce a bandwidth metric, wherein the bandwidth metric is used to identify the port on the data store.

17. (Original) The computer program of claim 16 further configured to operate the processing component to perform a method step of evaluating the second rule to produce at least one security parameter, wherein the network path is identified based on the at least one security parameter.

18. (Original) The computer program of claim 17 wherein the at least one security parameter includes one of a port zoning parameter and a WWN (world-wide name) zoning parameter.

19-23. (Canceled)

1           24.   (Currently amended) In a networked data processing system comprising  
2 one or more host servers, a switching component, and a data storage component, computer  
3 program code configured to operate a processor to perform steps of:  
4           receiving a user-originated request for data storage, the request comprising a  
5 service policy, the service policy being associated with one or more security criteria;  
6           identifying a server service component;  
7           identifying a data store from among a pool of data stores managed by the data  
8 storage component;  
9           identifying a port on the data store;  
10          communicating with one or more data agents to set up the data store and the port;  
11          identifying a network path between ~~a host server~~ the server service component  
12 and the port, ~~wherein the host server is identified in the user-originated request;~~ and  
13          communicating with one or network agents to configure the switching component  
14 to set up the network path,  
15          wherein one or more of the steps of identifying include determining a security  
16 parameter from the one or more security criteria and performing the identifying step using the  
17 security parameter.

1           25.   (Original) The computer program of claim 24 wherein the security  
2 parameter is a LUN masking parameter, wherein the data store is configured in accordance with  
3 the LUN masking parameter.

1           26.   (Original) The computer program of claim 24 wherein the security  
2 parameter is a port zoning parameter, wherein the network path is set up in accordance with the  
3 port zoning parameter.

1           27.   (Original) The computer program of claim 24 wherein the security  
2 parameter is a WWN zoning parameter, wherein the network path is set up in accordance with  
3 the WWN zoning parameter.